THOMAS GROOM & CO.
STATIONERS,
82 State Street
BOSTON.

SBr 97.41.1 (10)

The important systematic notes are copied into "Systematic Notes Vols I–68". All the notes are checked and I copied them.

Walter Deane,
June 17, 1898

(copied from typewritten note by S. C. Dexter, May 4 1931)

1878

Trip to Mt. Carmel Ill.
April 13 - 14 - 15

Left Boston Saturday, Apr. 13: arrived in Washington Sunday, Apr. 14. Spent Sunday and Monday with Henshaw, and took the night train (9.25) west over the B. & O. R. R. with Robert Ridgway on Monday evening April 15th.

1878

Tuesday — On the cars

April 16 — A clear, sunny day. Took breakfast at Grafton W. Va. Thro' the forenoon we were passing swiftly thro' West Va. and among other familiar scenes I saw once more one old field of operations — Petroleum. Passed Parkersburg at 10 A.M. and thro' the remainder of the day we were running thro' Ohio. Saw a good many birds but none of especial interest. Doves were especially numerous. The road passes thro' a fertile & highly cultivated country. The beautiful red bud was in bloom everywhere & gave a very affective tinge of color to the nearly leafless woods. At 7 P.M. reached Cincinnati, had supper & embarked on the C. & M. R. R. A heavy pall of smoke overhangs the city. English Sparrows numerous

1878

Wednesday — Mt-Carmel

April 17. Roused at 2 A.M. to disembark at Vincennes, Ind. where we waited till 5.30 for the early freight to Mt-Carmel. A lovely moonlight night — a morning smoked a cigar on the platform. A Whippoorwill singing in the woods beyond a meadow, and with the first streaks of dawn the beautiful song of Bewicks Wren from a near door yard. Reached Mt-Carmel at 7 A.M.: it is a beautiful town — for a Western one — perched on the crest of a prairie swell. Introductions to the numerous Ridgways: — breakfast — and a reconnoissance in the woods about. Took a pair of typical Collurio ludovicianus with their nest & 3 eggs; also Melospiza melodia on nest; Eph. Cicloa there; Myiodioctes varia & Cy. Cristata (in two shots) & Cardinalis on; Sturnus vulgaris on. Saw my first Chondestes grammacus, also D. caerulea (a few) & Pg. rubra, & Vireo flav. Dogwood (Cornus) in full bloom

Took a nest & 3 eggs of Wing. Bewicki

1878 Mt. Carmel Ill.

Thursday April 18. Cloudy with heavy rain in the forenoon. After dinner drove out to some oak woods near the town with Robert & Jos R. I took only my collecting pistol with which I shot five birds including my first Hel. pina. Robert took his gun but shot nothing of any importance. I took the following Hel. pina ♂; D. palmarum ♂; D. virens ♂; Eremophila alpestris ♂ & ♀; The woods were very gloomy and but few birds seen. Around an old dead horse were collected dozens of Buzzards & we drove within twenty feet of some of them. Saw a single Falco sparverius an uncommon Hawk here. Saw also a pair of Shrikes (L. ludovicianus) and found their new finished nest in an osage hedge by the roadside. Saw in a wheat field what R. thought to be Pucea æstivalis

1878 Mt. Carmel Ill.

Friday April 19. Clear & warm. Our first day in the bottoms across the Wabash, & a full one. Drove to a little pond, surrounded by cane. Birds swarming. I took the following Centurus car. one; Mel. erythro. one; Vireo olivaceus, one; Sitta carolin. one; D. cærulea three (one ♀); Hel. pina five (one ♀); D. dom. albilora one; P. citrea one (R. R. three more); Op. formosus R. R. one; Picus villosus one;

Arrivals noted. P. citrea about a dozen (one ♀); Hel. pina, gen. ar; abdnt; one ♀. H. chrysoptera two ♂; D. cærulea gen. ar. (♀s); Op. formosus, one only; Ic. Baltimore several; D. sparsus, several; Vireo olivaceus one; Cy. cyanea, several; &

There was evidently a general influx of migratory birds to day. The bottom lands were fairly alive with them, and the locality inspected is in every way especially favorable for an abundance of bird life

Nests Cardinalis cir. one ♀ &

1878 – Mt. Carmel Ill –

First trip up Potoka Creek

Saturday April 20. Clear and pleasant. Spent the forenoon in the house skinning our birds. Late in P.M. drove down to the river hired a skiff and with R. & Mr. Wiley paddled up Potoka Creek for about a mile. Potoka (Indian for crooked river) is a winding sluggish stream fringed with black willows. Birds of all kinds were numerous but we tried for none excepting Prothonotaries. Took only one gun & R. did most of the shooting. The birds we divided for the last time. Took Protonotaria citrea six males D. domin. albilora one ♂; D. caerulea ♀; Sirius motacilla one ♂.

Arrivals. Coccyzus americanus, several. Saw a single little Wood Duck, a chick apparently only a few days old, which had probably become separated from its parent. Yesterday evening while waiting for the ferry boat at the mouth of Potoka we witnessed a singular conflict between two Cathartes aura

1878 Mt. Carmel Ill –

Sunday – April 21. Spent the entire day about the house writing letters and skinning a few birds. I shot a fine ♂ Gon. leucopterus in the back yard, using my little pistol. About seventy five per cent of the country about Mt. Carmel is cleared and wheat fields occupy most of the cultivated areas. The woods present to a casual eye, nearly the same appearances than in Mass. – Oak & hickory ones I mean. The country is rolling & was formerly open prairie the timber having sprung up with the restriction of the prairie fires. The people are largely Germans. This applies only to the Ill. side of the Wabash. Across that river in Indiana heavy forests cover the river bottoms for five or six miles back. A few clearings only occur in this Superb forest.

1878 Mt. Carmel, Illinois

Second trip up Potoka Creek, Ind.

Monday April 22. A cloudy, gloomy day with frequent heavy showers. Spent the entire day up Potoka with R. Joe Ridg. & Mr. Willis. Forgot to take any dinner & reached home at dark nearly famished.

Took D. cærulea one ♂; D. dom. albilora one ♂; Prot. citrea, four, & Hy. mitratus one ♀; Parus carolinensis one; Thry. bewickii (in R's garden before starting) one.

Arrivals Hy. mitratus one ♀

Nests. Parus carolinensis, one four fresh eggs; one eight eggs nearly hatched, both taken by R.

We saw several large broods of young Wood Ducks and a single pair of adult Loph. cucullatus that evidently had young. Hylotomus pileatus is about as abundant here as in Maine: - not nearly so numerous as in Fla. Heard a number of Barred Owls hooting. The forests are fast leafing out.

1878 Mt. Carmel - Illinois.

A drive in Illinois

Tuesday - April 23. Another dull day with heavy rain in the morning & occasional shower thro' the day. After dinner Mr. R. (senior) asked me to drive out to visit a friend of his who lived about four miles from town. I took my pistol only & shot two birds

Took Euspiza americana my first, a ♂.

Vireo flavifrons, one.

Nests Cyanura cristata, nest & fresh eggs.

" Melanerpes erythro, opened an empty one

Saw very few birds. Watched a pair of Lophophanes that were building but could not follow them. Rapped on a stub & from a hole some ten feet up, a Red headed Woodpecker protruded its head. Cut the hole open & found nothing: it was just finished.

Saw a pair of Colluria ludovic.

The roads were very muddy & exceedingly monotonous stretching straight away between interminable brake fences, with wheat fields on either side.

1878 Mt. Carmel, Illinois

Afternoon in the Ill. bottoms

Wednesday - April 24. Stained all the morning. After dinner with Robert & Mr. R. Senior drove down along the Ill. side of the Wabash to the bottom lands.

Took D. cærulea (5 ♂, 2 ♀) Sporr. Hel. peregrina one (♀); P. citrea one; Py. rubra one; Op. formosus three; D. blackburniae, one ♂;

Arrivals noted. D. blackburniae one ♂; Hel. peregrina one ♂; D. tigrina one ♂ singing. Op. formosus, becoming numerous.

Nests. Py. rubra. ♀ working on one nearly completed. Falco anatum: nest in blasted top of sycamore: afterwards cut down & four young secured by R.

The woods were very lovely at sunset. I collected along as Robert & his father roamed about. Drove the old blind horse about thro' the woods & shot from the wagon. Ill. woods are very fine and dense,

1878 Mt. Carmel Illinois

Trip to Palmira & "Hanging Rock" Hill

Thursday - April 25. A singular day - one twenty heavy showers (without thunder) & intervals of bright sunshine between. Started early with Robert & Joe R. & drove to Palmira, shot there awhile; then tied at "Crawfish Creek" where we eat lunch, and finished the afternoon on "Hanging Rock" Hill.

Took Py. rubra two; Thry. ludovic. one; Sturnus motacilla one; D. palmarum one; Cuturus carolinus one; Cardinalis one; D. cærulea three; Op. formosus one.

Arrivals noted. Trochilus colubris one. Along Crawfish Creek Py. æstiva three. Birds were numerous, but in the upland woods they were quite scarce. In Illinois the place for collecting is along the rivers. Shot my Sturnus mot. near a slender little rill among upland woods. R. killed them in a brush pile in the swampy creek bottoms. My rubber coat in constant use to-day

1878 Mt Carmel, Illinois

April 26 (Friday) I spent the entire day in the house working on our birds. Jon. Lincoln's is now abundant. They are found almost exclusively about the town and in the brush piles along the wood edges. They sing finely. Bewick's Wren is a charming songster. It makes cheers us every day that we sit at the shining table, by pouring forth his notes in the yard behind the house. His song is loud clear & very sweet. Its tone ~~[illegible]~~ sweetness reminds me of the Winter Wrens but in its modulation it closely resembles the Song Sparrows.
The people of Mt. Carmel are hospitable but eminently Western. Their idioms are interesting. "I low" is frequent; "that" is used for it or them. "Yo! John," to call attention,

1878 - Mt. Carmel Illinois
First trip up White river

April 27 (Saturday) A cloudy gloomy day clearing at sunset. Started early in Will Ridgways skiff & went up White river alone.
Took Hel. pina one; D. dom. albilora two (♂ & ♀); P. citrea five; O. formosus five; My. nitratus two (♂ & ♀); Vireo gilvus one; Cardinalis one;
Nests Cardinalis in. on 3 eggs (fresh)
" Turdus mustelinus on 1 "
" Coccyzus am. " building
" Protonotaria citrea " 4 eggs (fresh) P.R.
Arrivals Op. formosus, abundant everywhere. I found birds exceedingly numerous & passed a delightful day enjoying every moment. Lost my favorite meerschaum hunting pipe in the woods near White River. I am now able to walk a good deal by going slowly. White river is a broad stream with willows growing in many places. John Ridgway came for me at Straws landing about dark

1878 Mt Carmel, Illinois

April 28 (Sunday) Spent the entire day about the house. The woods are now complete in full leaf and the wheat waist high. The lands that cover the river bottoms are superb, tho' from the uniformly great height and size of the trees one scarcely realizes how large they really are. There is so little undergrowth that one drives at will thro' the woods. The ground is in most places level but sometimes a little broken by ridges, long narrow hollows usually filled with water occur at frequent intervals. The ground is carpeted by a growth of wild grass (turn when the shade is dense) and weeds & wild flowers of every description abound. The great blessing is that there are no musquitos. A

1878 - Mt. Carmel Illinois
Second trip up White River. Hyemalis

April 29 (Monday) A lovely day, clear & not too warm. Started at 6 A.M. and went up White river in the Skiff with Robert & Joe R. Ran into Cypress Slough but could not get the boat up to the pond. I went in to Cypress pond & made a good bag. I shot around near the boat.
Took L. ludovicianus fair; C. fervorus, fair; L. caerulea one; H. pina three one ♀ with nest); Ny. nitratus ♂; Cy. cyanea ♂; Py. rubra two ♂; Seiurus motacilla one (♀ with full devel. egg); Ceu. carolinus two; Cerchneis sparverius one;
Nests. Hel. pina nest 1 egg & parents
" Parus carolinus deserted nest & 1 egg.
" Seiurus motacilla empty; bank of river.
Robert shot nine Ny. nitratus about Cypress pond. He also shot a fine ad. ♀ Accipiter fuscus. I saw my first Ictinia mississip. a beautiful bird on the wing. I shot a ♀ Junco hyemalis. Got back at dark after a hard days work.

1878 Mt. Carmel Illinois

April 30 (Tuesday) Spent the entire day in the house skinning our birds. The locality where we spent yesterday is a most interesting one. A little back from the river is a vast windfall covering miles in extent the track of the cyclone of 1877. The trees lie piled and uprooted and undergrowth is already springing up to conceal their prostrate forms. Over the comparatively open space Buzzards were wheeling by dozens and probably had nests somewhere in the vicinity. About the windfall Hel. pinus and Ty. exyanus were especially abundant. The Ictinea nigra was also seen sailing about over the same place. The pair of Hel. pinus were shot within a few yards of their nest

1878 Mt. Carmel Illinois
Third day on White & Potoka rivers

May 1 (Wednesday) Clear and very warm. Started early and spent the day alone in the skiff, working up White river a mile or two & back in the afternoon, running down the Wabash & up Potoka creek.
Took P. citrea eight; C. formosus, eight; D. dom. albilora, one; Hy. mitratus one; Ty. exyanus one; L. tigrina, one; Icterus spurius one; L. blackburniae one;
Arrivals L. tigrina one ♂.
Nests. Spizella mustelina 4 (fresh)
" Coccyzus americanus 3 ("
Heard a number of Yellow throat, Warbler on White river. Near the mouth of Potoka I saw a fine Ictinea sailing about over a pool in the woods. Potoka creek I found had gone out of its banks and the forest flooded for a considerable distance back was fairly alive with birds. Prothonotarius were especially abundant. Hel. pinus was also quite abundant & I heard ~~several~~ Tyr. Audoviciana. As I reached the W. bank of the Wabash at sunset Ecoronta was singing all over the commons.

1878 Mt. Carmel, Illinois
Afternoon on Potoka Creek

May 2 (Thursday) Spent the forenoon in the house skinning the birds that yesterday. Late in P.M. went down to the creek and took a paddle up Potoka for a few miles. It was lonely and dark. Saw few birds.

Took Cp. fasciatus one; Ty. cyanea one; Mniotilta varia one ♂; Seiurus aurocapillus one (♂ red). Nests. Sialia sialis nest & eggs (fresh). The owl came out from a hollow stub as I paddled by; in less than a minute dozens of birds collected about him making a great outcry. The Bluebirds nest was a second laying: found the nest on the 20th April 191 about 100 yds. off. To-day the male was feeding them within twenty feet of the nest. Sialia seems much a bird of the dense forest as of the open country. We have found several nests in the heart of the woods. As I waited for the wagon at the ferry at sunset, an immense flock of Chimney Swifts collected on a tall mill chimney & poured down into it for the night.

1878 Mt. Carmel, Illinois
Fourth day on Potoka Creek

May 3 (Friday) Cloudy, with frequent heavy showers, clearing late in the afternoon. Started early taking the stuff from the ferry & spending the day alone on Potoka creek. Paddled up one 7 miles rolling home by dark.

Took Falco peregrinus one; F. columbarius, nine; Ty. nebrascensis, one; Ty. cyanea one; Ceo. carolinensis one.

Nests. Cardinalis cr. 3 nests 4, 4, & 2 eggs
" Turdus mustelinus one 4 eggs.

Saw a great many broods of young ducks all Aix sponsa: in one little cove were three large broods with their mothers. Saw a O. h. virginianus. Falco peregrinus were more abundant than I have ever seen them before or since in Ill. They frequented the ash swamps & the marshes very freely. Found a nest of Spizella socialis placed in the loop of a hanging piece of rope in an old mill. Ter. ruficapilla & Ny. canadensis seen every day but not common.

1878 Mt. Carmel Illinois

May 4 (Saturday) Spent the entire day in the house skinning birds.

1878 Mt. Carmel Illinois
Visit to the Duck Hawks nest

May 5. (Sunday) Clear and a beautiful day. Started early after breakfast with Mr. Ridgway (senior) and John and drove down the Ill. bank of the Wabash to the Duck Hawks nest. I took my noiseless pistol and shot a few birds by the way. Took Hbl. peregrina thus; Ofsprings fermoxus, one; Eusfiza am. two; John Ridgway made a sketch of the Hawk tree and I watched the old birds for a long time. Their flight was extremely easy & graceful. Sometimes they poised themselves in an upright breasting a strong breeze like a kingfisher. The ♀ was the most daring & came within gun range several times. They uttered a harsh kaw, kaw, kaw. At one time the female visited & fed the young in the nest while John R. was sitting nearly under the tree. Every field now swarming with the black throated Buntings

1878 Mt. Carmel Illinois

First trip to Cypress swamp.

May 6 (Monday) A clear, calm day. Got off at 6 in the wagon with Robert and Vance Wells – a half breed (Indian & Negro) as guide. Crossed the Wabash at the upper ferry and made a bee line thro' the woods to the Cypress swamp. Within Cypress pond at about nine o clock.

Took Prot. citreus ♂; Ardea herodias (turned); Ibis. guara two; Hy. nitratus (♂ ♀); S. motacilla ♂ (♀ with nest);

Nests Hy. nitratus, three; 3, 3, & 1 eggs (one 4 eggs R.R.) S. mexicanus ♂ 4 eggs, Prot. citreus ♂, 3 eggs (fresh); S. aurocapillus ♂ 3 eggs fresh; Sirius motacilla, ♂, 6 eggs nearly fresh; Vireo noveboracensis two nests 4 & 3 eggs (fresh); Cathartes aura ♂ two eggs (R.R.).

We first crossed Beaver Dam Pond in an old dug out and landing walked to a heronry where about twenty five pairs of Ardea herodias were breeding. R. shot six of the old birds, I three. Most of the nests appeared to contain

1878 Mt. Carmel Illinois

First Trip to Cypress Swamp

young birds. Returning we explored the pond just named and then entered Hooked pond, passing thro' the thicket of an old beaver dam. On the shore of this pond we did some fine work. I found three nests of Hy. nitratus and one of Vireo nov. within a radius of three hundred yards. The ponds were all exceedingly beautiful. Rank grasses & aquatic plants covered the surface & a few full blown water lilies (N. odorata) rested on the water in each open space. From this aquatic vegetation came at frequent intervals a voice like the call of a chat – yes! exceedingly like it, but all our efforts failed to discover the author, failed. Wood Ducks with young were everywhere and we saw one or two broods of Hooded Mergansers accompanied by their parents.

Left the swamp at sunset & got to our jumping dusk. Hy. nitratus & Anthus ... the latter on the rim at dusk.

1878 Mt. Carmel, Illinois

May 7. (Tuesday) Spent the entire day in the house skinning birds.

1878 Mt. Carmel Illinois

Second trip to Cypress Swamp

May 8. (Wednesday). Cloudy with frequent showers. Got up at 11 A.M. with Vance who rowed me from the town ferry up to Cypress landing on White River. Landing there we struck across thro' the woods to the lower end of Hooked pond, where we took the dugout. Spent the rest of the day about Beaver Dam and Cypress ponds.

Took Prot. citrea, seven; O. formosus one (♀ with nest); Hy. mitratus one (♀ ~~with nest~~); Cy. cyanea one; Parus carolinensis, one (nest); Meleagris gallipavo one (♀ with nest) Nests Meleagris gallipavo, nest 11 eggs (slightly incubated); Oporornis formosus one 4 eggs (fresh); Prot. citrea, one, 5 eggs (fresh); Seiurus noveboracensis one 4 eggs (nearly fresh), Siurus motacilla one 4 eggs (fresh) I flushed the Turkey from her nest and killed her with a

(over)

1878 Mt. Carmel Illinois

Second trip to Cypress Swamp.

heavy charge of chist-shot
-thirty paces, flying, tail shot
at that. The nest was within
forty yards of a deserted barn.
We spent much time to day
on Cypress pond. It has more
willow trees than most of the
other ponds in this swamp and
Prothonotary Warblers were very
numerous there but we found
only one nest. There were many
Duck among the water plants
and some of those mysterious
birds(?) heard on the other ponds
but we could not get a sight at
the latter. Saw several Hooded
Mergansers with young. I found
the Water Thrush's nest by following
up the notes of the males. Both
he and his mate were sitting on
a log near the nest. Took the nest
Poms from a nest in a willow stub.
five other young, three of them dead.

1878 Mt. Carmel Illinois

May 9 (Thursday) Spent the
day in the house skinning
birds

1878 Mt. Desert Island's first trip to the Cypress Swamp

May 10 (Friday) Clear and warm. Started early with Robert & Jim, rowing up White River to the landing walked across to Sabal pond where we embarked in our dugout. About noon we had worked out to Washburn pond when James failed me about in the skiff for an hour or two, but in the afternoon joined us at the head of Beaver Dam pond & reached home by dark.

Took Hel. pinus, one; P. Catesbeiana three, & fourmorus one; Ply. nitratus one & with nest 1; Butes lineatus adult 1; Porzana Carolina ♂ & ♀; Dendroica discors ♂ & ♀; Rallus elegans ♂.

Nests. Ply. nitratus first 4 eggs; 1 nest 1 egg; Ex. cyanea nest 1 egg; Turdus mustelinus 2 nests 4 eggs. The Washburn pond is the largest of the chain. The water was fairly concealed by the exuberance of the aquatic vegetation. Blackbirds

1878 Mt. Desert Island's first trip to the Cypress Swamp.

Seal were quite numerous they being mated, but Jamie says they do not breed but are on their way North. We heard here what must have been the Blue Yellowbird from Jamie's description. They utered a deep hollow note like the sound produced by blowing into a long bottle repeated five or six times. Shot the Bittern at this nest the evening an hour or two before I secured both. Ridgway found a great breeding place for Prothonotary Warblers at the head of Beaver Dam pond. At least twenty pairs were breeding in an area of five or six acres. Shot the Sharp Shinned Hawk on Sorrel pond. It was alone and in very worn plumage.

Ridgway took three nests of P. Catesbeiana and two of Ply. nitratus. Moor is a nuisance to deny

878 Mt. Carmel Illinois

May 11 (Saturday) Spent the entire day in the house at work on birds and eggs.

879 Mt. Carmel Illinois

May 12 (Sunday) A fine and a lovely day. Spent the forenoon packing. In the P.M. went with James Wells to row, started up White River to visit some nests. Had good luck with both mine containing two sets of v. cetera with 4 and 5 eggs respectively. The latter set had been incubated several days. I shot the female off the last nest. As we came down the river at sunset it was very very lovely and I felt just a little sad at looking upon this, the scene of so many hard days' labor, for the last time. We let 3 banks swallows go and flying about over the water in all directions. In the afternoon as we drove over the "Commons" we saw a pair of Shrikes (Polyglottus) the only ones noted during our stay.

1878 Start for home.

From Mt. Carmel to Indianapolis

May 13 (Monday) left Mt. Carmel at 11 A. M. robert & John bade me good bye at the depot, at Vincennes Ind. I changed cars & by mistake got on the wrong train & however made the conductor accept my ticket tho' I lost my dinner in the hurry. Thro' the afternoon read and looked out from the car window. As we were rushing along at full speed a fine Wild Turkey rose from a corn field within 50 yds. of the train and dropped over a fence in the edge of some low marshy woodland. Passing across the State from West to East the country gradually becomes more broken and hilly, and a few cedars begin to appear. We reached Indianapolis at 7 P. M. and after a few minutes delay took to the "Sleeper" for the night.

1878. Penn. Central R. R.

From Pittsburgh to New York

May 14. (Tuesday) Awoke this morning to find the train running into Pittsburgh as dirty and smoky a place as our mortal eye rested upon. Took breakfast here and were soon after entering the rather climbing the mountains. The scenery thro' the Allegheny range is in some places very fine and altogether it surpasses that along the B. & O. R. R. thro' West Va. The view at a point called "Pack Saddle" struck me as as the most impressive. "Horse Shoe Bend" may have been attractive before the woods were all cut off. It is now only deserving of interest from the remarkable character of the engineering. Spent most of the day talking with a chance acquaintance Mr Henry of Pittsburgh. Arrived at Phila at 4 & New York at 11 P. M. where I joined E.

1878

Tuesday – Belmont Mass –
June 4. Cool and warm. My first field expedition since Jan. Off for the forenoon with Will Stone. Spent most of the time in the hilly pastures along Pleasant St. Belmont. The barberry bushes are in full blossom. Hunted carefully and long for nests of L. discolor but altho' the males are singing in many places I got only one nest – near the barn at the farther end of on the south side. Took L. discolor two males; L. pennsylvanica one male.

Took; nests. L. discolor one, 5 eggs – 1 – Vireo olivaceus one, 3 eggs (nearly hatched. Down home by way of Waverley and Lexington in time for dinner.

1878

Wednesday – Belmont Mass. June 5. Clear and warm. Another forenoon spent in the barberry pastures of Belmont. This time I hunted over my old ground in the pitches just below Arlington Heights. Heard 3 different males singing but the I hunted very much & more carefully did not find a single nest. Very light necks otherwise too. Got back to dinner at 1 P.M.

Took –

Birds. L. discolor 1; (not preserved)

Nests. L. discolor 1 – 3 eggs
Melospiza melodia 1 – 5 eggs (too far gone to blow.
Geothlypis trichas – 1 – 2 eggs

1878

June . Belmont Mass.

. Clear and warm.

Ate after breakfast with Carry, "Spending two hours or two" past and the fields and wood at the further end of Prospect St. Found the second nest of my D. discolor within twenty yards of the first (taken June 4). It contained 3 eggs. Found also a nest of D. pennsylvanica with 3 eggs. Left both for more eggs. I shot several birds here and found a nest of E. americanus with eggs. Then drove to the top of the hill above Cotton's where I shot several more birds. Here I also found fair or big flocks of Coturnicus passerinus breeding. York

Birds

Coturniculus passerinus – one, female;
Ulrio ottiacus – two, male & female
Dolichonyx oryzivorus – one, male
Tooxostes grammicus – two, male & female.

1878

June Belmont, Mass.

. Started off with Carry after breakfast; Drove thro' Prospect St. Stopping to take the Prairie Warbler's nest found yesterday. On the top of Cotton's hill tried for some time to shoot a G. Bobolink but they were too shy for my pistol. Then drove thro' the Bone near Cyrus Wellington's and hunted a little for nests but without much success as a shower came on and cut short my labors. Came home thro' the Willows. Birds are not as abundant as usual this season and numerous small boys destroy the more conspicuous nests. I took to day only

Nests

Ulrio ottiacus – one, 4 eggs
Dend. discolor – one, 4 eggs

1878

June Belmont Mass-

Another beautiful June day. Off as usual after breakfast taking Carry with me. Drove up to Prospect Station & spent the whole forenoon. On the top of the hill below Mr. Marsh's, found a nest of Cryptopus (?) which the French were at work in the stone. This was also a thing but just merely completed. Near the further end of the lane took the D. pennsylvanica nest found day before yesterday and shot a pair of birds. Started a ♀ grouse with young four or five in number. They are about the size of old and already very shy, flying quite well too.

Returned in time for dinner

Took - Nests, D. pennsylvanica, one nest, 4 eggs. Spiz. socialis, one nest, 4 yp. Birds. Melos. melodia, one 1st pl. — Hel. rufifrilla, one 1st pl.

1878

June 18 Concord, Mass-

Tuesday. Drove up from Cambridge late yesterday afternoon with Will Stone and took rooms at the hotel. Carry came up on the 6.40 train and went to "the Manse" with Lizzy S. This morning, tho' its was cloudy and threatening (Will) I started off for a forenoon's collecting. Drove up to the "Lathe lot" where I spent an hour or two without success. Heard there a Hel. chrysopterus singing. On the way back hunted down oak woods and found a Tyrannus tyrannulus sitting on four large young in the nest. Also heard several Tot. pessimus near Hildreth's corner. Passing thro' the town took a turn thro' the meadow where Henslow's Sparrow breeds and found two pairs, the males singing, the females with young on wing. In P. M. Will left and I brought Carry down to Miss Barrett's, after taking tea at the Manse. Not a bird a nest taken to-day

1878

June 19. Concord, Mass.

Wednesday. Clear and hot. Walked after breakfast with Wm. Buttrick and drove first to John Moore's meadow where I shot a young C. trecaptoni. Thence thro' Lincoln woods to Sandy pond where I took the nests recorded below and found an F. fuscescens with young. Jumping thro a black duck fair fast long; flocks of birds were gathered about it making a great outcry. On our return stopped again at the meadow & I shot another young Henslow's Sparrow.

Took – birds C. henslowi, 2 – 1st pl. 6-2

Nests – Vireo olivaceus – 1 – 3 eggs. Cyanospiza cyanea, 3 eggs. Set 4 P.M.

Found Carry & Higgy on the river & rowed down to "the tent" where we took tea. The "Great meadows" were lovely at sunset! – a perfect sea of waving green with long reaching shadows from the isolated trees & hills about. Drove to Carlyle with Jim in the evening & called at George Robbins.

1878

June 20. Concord Mass.

Thursday. Very hot. After breakfast C. and I rowed down river to the tent where we spent the forenoon. I shot a Vireo gilvus with my pistol, many birds were feeding large young. It is a never failing source of astonishment to me – the briskness of the breeding season.

After dinner at Mrs. Barrett's took a short horseback ride on Jim. After supper we drove up to the Wm. Buttricks, made a short call and then started for Cambridge at 7.45. Took with us a Sheldrake (M. merganser ad ♀) which Wm. Buttrick caught alive in a field behind his house (June 18th). At Sandy pond I let the poor creature go. It had probably been wounded as it could only flap along the surface. When far out into the pond it settled into the water, emitting a bright silvery ripple in the moonlight. Reached Cambridge at 10.30 P.M.

July 14 (Sunday) While driving this evening in Belmont I saw a flock of about twenty large birds that I could not make out at all. They were flying South and passed on the road about five hundred yards ahead of me. It was quite dusky and this added to the distance prevented me from getting a satisfactory sight at them. Their flight was rapid and direct and they moved in a broad extended front, or line at right angles with their course. We were about the size of White Ibises, but of a dark color. I suspect that they may have been Glossy Ibises, indeed I know not what else to suggest: certainly they were not Ducks in their flight and swifter than any other birds, except Ibises.

July 27 (Saturday) I have spent the month so far at home, occupying most of my time with work in doors. My lameness hangs on most persistently. Have tried treatment with electricity under Dr. J. Putnam but it only seemed to make matters worse.

For the last three days the window tree in front of my window has been gilded with birds. Among them are two Mniotilta varia two Seth. ruticilla and a number of Lind. aestiva. A Wood pewee has his favorite perch on a dead limb over the piazza and his mate has just hatched out her young in their nest in the linden at the left of the front gateway. Hummingbirds are coming about the flowers

1878 Trip to Nantucket

Aug. 5 Monday, Left Boston at 11.15 with E. The morning was intensely hot and close but when we took the steamer at Woods Holl there was a cool refreshing sea breeze coming across the water, the passage across the sound was more monotonous than usual for a thick fog enveloped the water, neither at Martha's Vineyard nor Nantucket during the passage was we able to see more than a few yards but when we reached Nantucket the fog had lifted & Coatue point and the inner harbor seemed peopled with an equal number as if upon 1874

We went directly to the Cliff House where we engaged two rooms & had a so far delightful time. Fished in the evening

1878 Nantucket

Aug. 6 Tuesday. Warm and cool with a fine sea breeze. I spent the afternoon in hunting up a boarding place and then found me at Mrs. W. C. Folger's on Main St. C. went in search of tall stockings and read Nelson's adventures. We moved to our new quarters after dinner and established ourselves in apparent comfort. After supper took a horse and black wagon and ran nearly to the south side. A thick sea fog with drizzle in it settled over the place imparting a weird character to the landscape. Small birds were very numerous grasshoppers and one sparrow hawk on the wind among knolls & [illegible] rushes rising from the marsh grass. "Nick" winged a rare night heron amusingly but got overexcited & had a fit.

Aug 4 Wednesday, Clear with a fine cool breeze. In H. M. drove round the town in search of a horse that we might hire for the whole of our stay. After dinner started out again and drove over to the south shore. The sun was shining fully on the broad green moors & the air was clear and fresh. We saw a number of Cl. plovers, & yellow legs along the shore. I walked in & recall the hole which a native had hooked on his "draill." As we started back a wonderfully black & threatening cloud rose up in the path of the & in a short time came drifting on the island. The temperature fell rapidly & a high wind caught the summons but no rain fell. In spite of the drawback of this storm-cloud we had a magnificent, & small company of Barn Swallows followed us across the moors as if claiming our protection.

Aug 5, Thursday. Clear with a cool breeze as usual. After breakfast Mr. Stephens brought a horse which we had hired for the whole period of our stay & we drove about the town a little and then over to the bathing beach where we sat for an hour or two watching the bathers. In the afternoon drove over to the south shore, starting after supper (5.30 P.M.) and getting back at about 8 o'clock. The same little troop of barn swallows followed us closely all the way across the moors and as we returned in the twilight I caught sight of a Short Eared Owl hawking about and occasionally poising in one spot for many seconds and then dropping down on some prey beneath. We watched him until his form was lost in the uncertain light.

1878 Nantucket

Aug. 9. Friday. Fine and a glorious day. I went down to the bathing beach in the forenoon and I took my first bath. Swallows & Terns were flying about over the sea but I identified only one species, S. hirundo.

Starting at about 4 P. M. we drove over to South Shore taking our tea with us and eating it on the beach.

Saw very few birds and none of them especially worthy of mention. Shore birds: Grackles and several species of Sparrows are among the most characteristic species on the island. This morning I heard a Parus atricapillus in the tree in front of my window. It is the only one I have seen here.

Upon reaching our house learned by letter of Carolin's grandmother's death.

1878 Nantucket and Cambridge

Aug. 10 Saturday. Clear and warm. Decided last night to return to Boston and see if we could be of any use to the family. So started this morning on the 7.15 boat leaving all our things behind us. Got to Boston by 1.45 and found that Mrs. Rose's funeral had been yesterday. After taking dinner at #3 West Cedar St. I went out to Cambridge having E. to accompany her mother to Milton to spend to-morrow. Found all well at our house; the aspect of things very little changed, cicadas a trifle more noisy but their best efforts eclipsed by the swarms of English Sparrows that quarreled among the trees in the garden. Intended to drive to Concord in the evening but as it looked like rain I gave it up

1878 Bridgewater Road
Concord

August Sunday. Spent most of the day in getting ready in a large lot of rags for W. H. Armitage of Sheffield England. From my window I heard or saw among the linden trees several Yellow Warblers (D. aestiva) and Least Flycatchers (E. minimus) while Orioles (I. baltimore) were trooping about the garden as is their wont at this season. After supper I made ready to drive to Concord and got off at 6.30. Jimmy had not been out of his stall for two weeks consequently he was rather frisky and self assertive the first half of the way and somewhat tired the last. As I reached the little church in Lincoln the full moon had risen and thro' Walden woods the glorious beauty of still, radiant night was almost entrancing. Saw E. R. S. and Jim. & put up at the Middlesex

1878 Concord and Cambridge
Sept. Housatonic

Aug. 12. Monday. A clear still day. Rose at 5.30 and left Concord at 6.30. Took the Mystic road thro' Lincoln woods it was very beautiful, every leaf and blade of grass glistening with the clustering dew drops, but before I reached Cambridge the rays of the August sun glared fiercely upon the dusty road. At the little meadow just outside the town I stopped to listen a moment for Henslow's Buntings and have enough. There was a weak perched upon a tall weed near the road & uttering his feeble song. Got to Cand. at 8.30 drove into Boston at 10 O'clock met Carry at 3 and we both joined Biggy & at the depot and came down together to Nantucket arriving at 5 P.M.

1878 Nantucket

Aug. 13. Tuesday. Had our team after breakfast and drove over to the bathing beach where C. and I took a bath.

In the afternoon drove over to the South Shore taking our tea with us and eating it upon the beach. A flock of Sterna hirundo that were flying overhead spied "Puck" and swooped down on his head a number of times making a great outcry. The moors were very beautiful. A kind of moss that closely resembles Scotch heather grows everywhere and a little yellow aster is flowering among the wild flowers. Near the beach or wherever the soil is very sandy yellow primroses grow and blossom. On the beach golden rod is abundant there too but not in bloom yet.

1878 Nantucket
Siasconset - Short Eared Owls

Aug. 14. Wednesday. Clear and cool. C. & I bathed in the forenoon. Starting early in the P. M. with Lizzy, we drove over to Siasconset where we took tea on the Bluffs and returned by moonlight. On the way over saw a Short Eared Owl hunting in broad daylight (4 P.M.) On our return started four out of the road in traversing not over a mile of ground. One of these was very white looking as much so as a Snowy Owl. They were all very tame permitting a near approach. Saw also Hen Harriers and a Kingfisher. Yellow winged Sparrows were exceptionally numerous. Large plantations of pines occur at frequent intervals along the road. In many places whole acres of them are dead or dying. Reached home 6 9 P.M.

Aug. 15. Cloudy with a drizzling fog and occasional light rain. Drove out to the bathing beach in the forenoon and took my usual dip but C. did not go in to day.

Starting at 4 P. M. we drove nearly out to Siasconset. I took my gun along and shot a fine Short eared Owl. It was sitting on a low dead branch on the edge of one of the blueberry trails, apparently watching in its prey. I heard another from low oak scrub a Pipilo erythrophthalmus and also a Geothlypis trichas.

A beautiful Scarlet Lily was in bloom along the roadside and several other flowers that we did not know. Reached the house at 8 P. M.

Aug. 16 Friday. Cloudy most of the day with frequent showers. Started at 10 A. M. with Mr. Reynolds for a day up the harbor taking my gun and bass rod. Had a very enjoyable day landing six small blue fish with rod and reel, besides looking off three and shooting a number of birds. Got back to the town at 8 P. M.

Porte Hydrochelidon plumbea 2 juv. Sterna fuscata 1 juv. S. paradisea an adult. Sterna hirundo 1 ad. Strepsilas interpres one (adult); Ammodromus candacutus 2 juv. Saw six Hy. plumbea, about the same number of S. fuscata, one of the S. paradisea and swarms of S. hirundo. In a marsh near Wauwinet were several Yel. melanistic a pair of S. plaripes, and numberless Aegiochalcus semipalmatus and "Peeps". Terns of all kinds as plenty as in 1874

Jan. 17. Saturday. Cloudy with heavy and pleasant rain all day. Spent most of the time in our room skinning birds. I however lost the greater number of my specimens for by noon this had all become very bad indeed. I succeeded in having one of the Mr. plumbeus the S. zonata, S. paradisea, the two Cond. canadensis and the last shot Thursday. The Mr. plumbeus both had their stomachs crammed with fish bones of a small size.
In the evening I drove down with Mr Stephens to meet the boat expecting Jim to arrive on her but he did not come.

Jan. 18 and on Tuesday the 20th. Rainy in forenoon at sunset. Spent the entire day in the house reading a good deal and writing letters in the afternoon.

Aug. 19 Monday. A fine and cool the air sparkling as in our fine September weather. Capt. Jones left this morning for home. I drove him down to the Steamer. As I was returning heard the clear whistle of an Upland Plover flying over the town. Later in the afternoon shooted up a Mr. Sweet who has some mounted birds. Among them was a fine Eq. ~~Shot at~~ on this island. He also had a pair of wings of a Hy. plumbea, a fine adult Sula bassana, and a Mergulus alle. The latter species was he said abundant here in the winter.

Aug. 20. Tuesday. Clear and a very hot fine day. Started off at 8 A.M. with Higgs and Islander and an inexperienced gunner. Drove out to some plover ground near the north shore where on the smooth turf we found a flock of eleven Numenius borealis feeding, but they were too shy to be approached. Upland Plover were numerous but exceedingly shy. I killed one at a very long shot with no 8. Drove from there to Hummock pond where I shot nine Sterna antillarum and one of them immature. Saw here, two Hy. plumbea which were fishing with the other Terns, and missed a good shot at one of them. Saw also seven Black ducks & a Goose, flying in the return to town shot a Wild Pigeon, a bird in superb plumage, and fired a few long shots at Upland Plover. Reached town 5.30 P.M.

Aug. 21 (Wednesday). Was cool and a pleasant day. Went down to the bathing beach in the morning and had a delightful swim. In the afternoon made up skins of some of the Least Terns shot yesterday. The Upland Plover I picked and had for dinner as it. Bill was so badly shattered that it was worthless as a specimen. In its stomach were remains of grasshoppers and crickets. It was exceedingly fat. Upton took a drive about town and had a long talk with Mr. Devoe. He showed me an adult Sharp-shinned Hawk which was shot to day from a flock of about twenty. It is the first specimen that has been killed here this season.

Aug. 22 (Thursday). Rose early and took the 7.15 boat from the island. Crossing the Sound we saw a good many Terns especially about the "Cross Ledge". Arrived at Boston at 1.45 P.M. and went directly out to Cambridge. Found everything nearly as when here last. The Least Flycatchers were gone entirely apparently, at least from the Linden trees. There were a few Yellow Warblers lingering about the place saw the last of them on Sat. Aug. 24th. They may however have lingered a few days later. Contracted a severe cold the last night at Nantucket and after my return to Cambridge, I was sick nearly a week with it.

1878 Second Trip to Nantucket

Sept. 23 Monday. Clear and a cool bracing September day. Left Boston for Nantucket by the 8 a. M. train, Will Stone accompanied me and I took "Druid" also. We reached Woods Holl by 11.15 but had to wait there until 2 P. M. for the arrival of the boat. Had dinner at the Webster House on the hill above the station. In a tree that grew near the piazza I counted four Icterus Coronata. Embarking on the "Nine Queen" we had an uneventful sail across the Sound. Near Oak Bluffs I saw more terns than I have ever met with in that vicinity before – at least thirty of them all apparently S. hirundo. Arrived at Nantucket at 5 P. M. and went directly to Mrs. W. C. Folger's where we took the familiar old room.

1878 Nantucket
Trip to Hummock pond

Sept. 24 Tuesday. Clear and a fine day, a little warmer than yesterday. Started off directly after breakfast in a wagon that we hired of Mr. Thomas, down first to Reed pond where I made a long shot at a Grebe (P. podiceps) and Will shot a Black duck which got up from a little pond-hole. "Druid" swam out to the first but would not touch it so I waded in & got it myself. The duck he retrieved in good style. They were the first birds he had ever seen and this morning he heard the report of a gun this morning for the first time. We went down to Hummock pond where we ate lunch and I shot a Sterna hirundo that flew overhead. Between here and Hummock ponds we saw a flock of about

1878 Nantucket

Trip to Hummock pond.

a dozen Golden Plover sitting or rather running about on the sandy shore of a small pond. They rose as we were attempting to approach them and passed within such long gun range that two barrels fired into them had no effect. On the shore of Hummock pond were a few Ring-necks and a large flock of Peeps, we saw three Terns only were seen. From there we drove nearly directly home and I shot two Cotturnicules passerinus by the way. Saw some Crows sitting on the roof of an unoccupied house & were told that they nested in the shade trees that grew around it. Beautiful golden rod and blue and white asters covered the moors with their rich bloom. The butterflies too were nearly as abundant as ever. Mr. Sweet saw one a Pheal hyperboreus shot on the island Sept. 22.

1878 Nantucket

A day up Great Harbor

Sept. 25 Wednesday. Edson and I got with light winds, started off at 8.7. A.M. in a large sail boat and spent the day up the harbor. As we were entirely becalmed a great portion of the time we did but little shooting. I did shot a Megaserrator one of a pair which we sailed up to. They dove like Grebes and the one killed only flew after being shot at in the water. I killed a Tringa maculata and a pair of Ann. canadensis on Kroskatty marsh. Saw numbers of Sterna hirundo and also a good many Larus agentatus on a sand bar we noticed one of Uria lomvia sitting among the Gulls. Saw large patches of sand floating on the water. Reached home by sunset

Trip to Smiths Island

Sept. 26. Went with brief period of clouds, started off at 8 a.m. in Capt Hamilton's sail boat and sped away before a fine breeze for Smiths Island. When we arrived there we anchored the sail boat containing a dory which we had towed up, spent most of the day down around the little bay between the island and Tuckernuck. Shot a golden Plover from a small flock but as he was only wing tipped he escaped into some piles of sea weed & was lost. I also shot a beautiful young Sterna paradisia which had been wounded slightly by some one and was sitting on the beach ridge. Returning to the sail boat late in the afternoon we went out on the extreme

Trip to Smiths Island

Eastern point of the island and saw four more or two in a shooting stand. While there some short tailed Jaegers (Lay. pleurocera) came about with the other Jaegers and we shot four in a short time, seeing two others also. I noticed a Wilsons Tern feeding its young which were fully grown and feathered. Roseate terns were not numerous but they kept off over the reefs and did not approach the point.

Got aboard at 5.30 P.M. we started for home and made a splendid run before a fresh sea breeze. I shot an adult Ex. paradisea by the way. We saw a Wilsons Tern drop a fish from a considerable height & swoop down, retake it before it touched the water.

1873 Pantechet

Sept. 27 [illegible] clear and cold with wind west, but the forenoon is the best shooting I have had yesterday. Saw a short tailed hawk all had the undigested remains of small fishes in their stomachs. After dinner Mr. Stephens brought Nelly around and after driving about town an hour or more and interviewing Mr. Eaton and Capt. Moores we drove on to the north road and then Westward returned to town by sunset. Upon the ground where I saw the Curlews in August we discovered a pair of golden plovers feeding, erect and distinctly visible. The down rise within easy range; I killed one setting the other escaping thro' a sudden jump that the horse made as I fired. I also shot a Cot, fuscescens. Saw Pectoralis, and S. striata in the [illegible]

1873 Pantechet

Trip to Smiths Point

Sept. 28 Saturday. Clear and a glorious day. Got off by 7 A. M. in the wagon and started for Smiths point. Saw nothing worth shooting at until we reached Reedy pond when I shot one and S. two Meadow larks. We drove them into a meadow where they lay like a nail among the tall grass. Did not shoot again until near Eel point where I killed a Surdus aliciae on the edge of the salt marsh. It rose from the grass like a Sparrow & I shot it flying. At Smiths point we found a large flock of Jet larks feeding on the bare ground. They were very shy & restless but we shot five. I also shot a Lend Castanea flushing it from the beach grass. We sat our hands on the beach inside the point and saw them Sturna hirundinea

while there a superb hawk
(image) descending on the sand hills
flew and circling higher & higher, drift-
ed out to sea to the southward.
Hence were fishing in streams are
the "ripes" but we got no shots
at desirable species. Upon our
return I shot another Surdus alicia
within a few hundred yards of
where I discovered the first. This
bird was here daylight again & going
the spot I actually stepped
upon it as it lay hidden in the
grass. This point seems to
be a general rendezvous for bird
migrants. It was fairly alive with
sparrows to day. Upon our
return I shot a Lot. passerinus &
a lark. When near the town
we drove up within thirty two yds
of a flock of Golden Plover as they
were batting in the shore of a pond
I killed four with one barrel; the
horse acted so badly that I could not use

Sept. 24. Sunday. Clear and
slightly warmer than yesterday
Spent the forenoon and
the first half of the afternoon
in the house at work upon
the birds shot yesterday.
At 4 P.M. Mr. Stephens
brought "Nelly" around and
we took a drive of a few
miles along the Polpis road,
seen a large number of Lot.
passerinus. They would
sometimes run like mice in
the dirt ahead for many rods.
Among some small pines
saw a Red Bird and
several Juncos. Saw also
at one time two adult male
Marsh Hawks beating about
over the hills. The country
is more uneven and picturesque
along this road than elsewhere
within we have been.

1878 Nantucket
Second trip up Great Harbor

Sept. 30. Monday. Clear but rather chill, with wind E. Started off about 8½ A.M. in the sail boat with Capt. Morris and Mr. Parker, and spent the day in the harbor. We row running up to Wauwinet saw an little herodias sitting on a sand bar among the Gulls & Terns. At Crosskaty marsh we landed and I drove them Lark (S. magna) into a growth of tall grass & tramping them up shot two of them. Here we saw a Cormorant (G. dilophus). I beat the marsh for sharp tailed finches but saw none. In the afternoon we ran up into Polpis harbor and at sunset we took a long stretch out over the sound. Saw a small bunch of Coots but naught else. Packed up in the evening.

1878 Nantucket to Boston

Oct. 1. Tuesday. Clear and a lovely day with a light air. Sailing left Nantucket at ½ 11 A.M. on the "Nine Queen". On the passage across the sound we saw a few scattered Terns but when within a mile or two of Cape Cod we passed several large swarms of them hovering over schools of blue fishes.
At Woods Holl we were detained for several hours. Our journey to Boston was entirely uneventful. The woods were very glorious with their autumnal coloring. Sunset and twilight seemed all the more brilliant from our seclusion on Tuckernuck. Nantucket, joined C. in Cambridge found all well

1878 Concord.

Oct. 4. (Friday) Clear and a perfect Autumn day. Took the 8.25 train (Lowell) to Concord this morning and meeting C. at the Station we took after started down river in my boat, & rowed down to within about a mile of Carlisle bridge and we landed on the left bank and spent several hours basking in the sunshine at the foot of a wooded slope. Early in the afternoon we returned and after taking tea at the Whittacks I came back to Cambridge by the 6.36 train. It was one of the most beautiful days I can remember! Birds were very numerous but I saw nothing especially interesting. Musty Crackles were everywhere.

[illegible]

Lucan's Point [illegible]

Oct. 13 [illegible]

[illegible] breakfast [illegible]
with C. [illegible] for [illegible]
and around the [illegible]
[illegible] flocks of sparrows
[illegible]
[illegible]

[illegible] again this
time with Sam. [illegible]
he told me [illegible]
a [illegible] [illegible]
[illegible] or two and [illegible]
[illegible]
[illegible]
[illegible]
and finally [illegible]
[illegible]
[illegible]

[illegible]

Quiscalus purpureus

Oct. 14. Monday. Clear
[illegible] till [illegible] with a
south [illegible] or [illegible]
[illegible] with the leaves
in the woods. Tested [illegible]
[illegible] the "Falls" [illegible]
Dined [illegible] the "Falls" [illegible]
and tried the pick of [illegible]
[illegible] the [illegible] turnpike but
without success. Then returning
thro' the town drove up
beach to the "Parker lot"
and tried another hitch
[illegible] but could find no
trace even of a Woodcock.
On my return then met
Mr. Lester's [illegible] but
started some solitary pine
tree on the roadside.
In the afternoon took a
pretty trip up the (W)abet with
C. Saw two Quiscalus purpureus
[illegible] was very beautiful

[illegible]

[illegible] number of small
birds collected during the morning,
[illegible] that surrounded the house.
The were [illegible] them I identified
as [illegible] (a [illegible] hundred)
as pusilla, [illegible] "[illegible]"
[illegible]
[illegible] the [illegible]
I [illegible] [illegible]
[illegible] [illegible]
[illegible] "Laird" with me.
In the afternoon drove up
Lawson Fossard with C.
In the evening [illegible]
Cricket (ground) [illegible]

1878 Concl'd
A trip up river. - Hirundo bicolor

Oct. 16. Wednesday [illegible]
about 10 A.M. when [illegible]
and the remainder of the [illegible]
[illegible] an [illegible]
[illegible]
We reached Fair [illegible] Bay where
we tried to paddle up to a Creek
(C. podiceps), and started four
black [illegible] which [illegible]
large. Dan went in [illegible]
pond & started three [illegible]
the bay in. We lost [illegible]
[illegible] the next [illegible],
a fresh [illegible] [illegible]
[illegible] on the [illegible] bank, [illegible]
[illegible] up [illegible] for [illegible] mile [illegible]
[illegible] Hirundo
bicolor [illegible] passing. [illegible] I
shot in specimens, [illegible]
the bay home. I shot a [illegible]
(white) pair [illegible] the bay. It [illegible]

[illegible]
[illegible]
It [illegible]
"[illegible] we came upon a [illegible] (Brodiaea) which [illegible]
[illegible]
[illegible] on a hill, [illegible]
[illegible]
[illegible]
[illegible]
[illegible] wood-
[illegible]
[illegible]
[illegible]
[illegible] meadows. [illegible]
[illegible]
the darkening water. It [illegible]
a day of [illegible] enjoyment.

Oct. 18 (Friday) Yesterday was spent in the house. I had an unusually bad headache and I presume myself with working upon the birds since Wednesday. This morning was clear and warm, I drove up to "Fifty Acre Meadow" after green grasses and spent a good deal of time picking up our belongings.

Late in the afternoon we had "spinning" homeward and drove down to Cambridge. As we came by Sandy Pond I discovered a Ruddy Duck sailing about in the cove near the Road. I'd's pleasure little form floating on the water was a great temptation but I had no time to stop & stalk him

1878 Cambridge

Nov. 14. Thursday. It is many a day since I have had aught to record in this little book. Since our return from Concord we have been very busy getting into our new house in the Brick Block on Sparks St. This morning was however so wonderfully fine and tempting that I took my gun out of its case once more and putting a few shells into my pockets started off with Will in my open buggy. We stopped first at the strip of yellow pines beyond the Brook on the Coolidge farm in Watertown, and I went thro' them carefully. Among the young growth on the edges were large numbers of Fox Sparrows and I was surprised to hear the males singing freely at intervals, tho' in an undertone. Among them were a few Jun. albicollis. I shot here a fine pair of adult Dend. pinus in fall plumage. Will saw a Winter Wren which came out near the road as we sat in the buggy. From here we drove up to Belmont and thence up the hill to Arlington Heights. While I was hunting about in the cedars Will heard a Quail whistle and upon my return "took Reid" & beat for the bird in vain tho' I found where they had been dusting. We then drove on over "the Heights" to Wellington where I examined an Owl hole but found it vacant. Upon our return I shot a ♂ Molothrus pecoris, one of a pair that rose from a corn field. Reg. linaria was abundant everywhere.

1878 Cambridge

Nov. 15. Friday. Clear and warmer, finer day than yesterday. Started off in the morning with Will Stone and went over very nearly the same ground covered yesterday. I again went thro the fields by the brook in Waltham, but there were no birds among them save a few Chickadees. From there drove up to Arlington Heights where I walked "Warren" over the ground that the Devil was heard on yesterday. Saw no signs of the Brown Thrasher. It is not a little remarkable that abundant as the Fox Sparrows were yesterday, not one was seen to day. They, with the Zonotrichia albicollis must have migrated last night. Red polls were numerous and I saw a single Tree Sparrow flying over the woods. Got back to dinner at 2 P.M.

1879 Belmont & Waltham

Jan'y 22 Clear and moderate. Tempted by the fine sleighing I started off this morning for a long drive taking my gun. There has been about 10 inches of snow upon the ground for several weeks but winter birds have been less numerous since its advent. Drove up through Waverley, around by the Lyman place in Waltham across the Hobbs place there on to Thomas Pond and back thro' the Belmont willows. Saw exceeding few birds: a little company of Redpolls on a bed of tall weeds, a few Chickadees, one song Sparrow (in Waverley) two Goldfinches American and a few Tree Sparrows. Upon our return and just before we reached "the willows" a female Accipiter fuscus crossed the road and lit on an overhanging branch. We were close upon her before I could stop the horse & get a cartridge in the gun the flew. Upon reaching home I found a fine Night Heron which had been left for me. Its captor said that he found it on the Charles River

Jan. 24 Clear and moderate with a cold wind. By invitation of Mr. Andrew Ward I made one of a party which was organized for shooting trip down harbor. We met at 8 A.M. at Congress St. bridge and going aboard a pretty little tug were soon steaming down the bay. The winter scenery was both novel and beautiful. The gulls and rocky shores were cased in snow and ice looking like the miniature designs in frosting and sugar displayed in shop windows at Christmas time. The smooth round topped islands were covered with an unbroken expanse of spotless white and were often nearly invisible against the sky. Only a few sails were to be seen but busy little tugs were officiously puffing about the waters of the harbor and spouting lustily as the ship channel was a huge ocean steamer heave black bulk

Jan. 24 and red smoke stacks looming up conspicuously against the background of white ~~[illegible]~~ islands. Water fowl soon began to appear and in numbers too that quite astonished me. In all directions little clusters of Whistlers (B. clangula) and Sheldrake (M. serrator) studded the blue water while single birds or long lines stringing out against the sky, hurried to & fro from one feeding ground to another. The two species just named were the most abundant but numbers of others were noted during the day. A moderate estimate of the ~~Ducks~~ total number of Ducks seen would certainly reach one thousand individual. The first shot fired was at a small Duck which was swimming about in the smooth water under the lee of a wharf. I could not determine the species

Jan. 24 tho' I suspect that it may have been a female Mergus cucullatus. The shot failed to take effect and the bird was soon out of sight. We next ran up to a Red throated Loon (C. septentrionalis) and every barrel in the party was fired at him without avail. We seemed utterly confused by this unexpected assault and neither dove nor flew. In fact before we could reload our headway carried us nearly over him when he flopped off to one side. A few more shots seemed to bring him to his senses and he at once took to diving in a way that completely baffled us. After an hours chase he settled the matter by taking to wing against the wind and making out to sea. We next ran down Brightons Channel and out into the open ocean beyond the outer "Breakers". In the

Jan. 24 middle of the channel about opposite Boston Light we found a number of Black Guillemots (Uria grylle) and three were shot and safely brought to boat. Here we also saw a pair of Little Auks (Mergulus alle) which flew from in shore & disappeared in the distance seaward. (for description of habits of Uria grylle see sheets on file) Several Loons (C. torquatus) were also found in the tide way and afforded us a little rifle practice. They were all immature birds. Returning we next steamed in by Hull and thence thro' numerous intricate channels between the islands back towards Boston. It was here that we saw the greatest number of Ducks and in some places the flats and coves fairly swarmed with them. In one place an immense flock of Black Ducks

Jan. 24 rose from the shallows near a point. They filled a half-acre of air in their flight and there must have been at least five hundred in that one flock. There was no mistaking their vigorous upward spring as they started from the shallow water and as they turned in their flight the light whitish under lining of a thousand wings flashed for a moment in the sunlight. They were all of this species that were seen during the day. Upon our return we shot and secured an immature Bodkins grasinecne holbolli, a tame, stupid bird that allowed us to run the tug within thirty yards before taking to diving. We also bagged an ~~immature~~ pair of Shelldrake (Merges serator) – an immature male and an adult female. This last species was known

Jan. 24 in most cases shy enough to ensure its safety, tho not nearly so shy as the Whistlers. We saw a single pair only of Coots both immature White wings (Oedemia fusca) Gulls were exceedingly numerous but very shy. About one per cent. of the individuals seen were Black backs (L. marinus) the others all being L. argentatus. No Jaegers, Kittiwakes or other species were observed. We were told that a Snowy Owl has been regularly seen during the winter upon Spectacle Island. No Snow Bunting, or other small birds were observed. Crows (C. americanus) were very numerous upon some of the island sitting upon the points in company with the Gulls or feeding along the beaches. We reached Boston at 4 P.M. after a most enjoyable day.

1879 [illegible]

The Song of the Woodcock

[illegible] a little before sunset. A Woodcock, we found, had for several evenings past sung directly behind the house, rising first from a bushy sun where I examined a nest in 187[illegible] and afterwards lighting in the open field that adjoined the house. When the sun had fairly set and as the twilight was beginning to descend, Arthur Robbins came in to tell us that the Woodcock had already begun to bleat. We accordingly went out and sure enough at intervals of a half minute or so the Night hawk like cry came up from the depths of the hollow in,

1879 Carlisle, Mass.

The Song of the Woodcock

April 8. the run. Before the first flight upward began we took our position on the stone wall that separated the field from bushy hollow, and we afterwards found that we could not have been better posted for at the close of his song our long-billed friend lit within twenty paces of us and we had an excellent opportunity to observe all his motions as he sat on the close-cropped and withered yellowish turf. He repeated his serenade some six or eight times, when it became so dark that he ceased altogether for that night. Once he lit within twelve feet of us and went thro' all his curious notes and motions without apparently regarding my presence in the least.

As I have already published some very full notes on this curious love song it will not be necessary

April 8 him to give any other than a few additional points which the better opportunities of this recent experiment enabled me note. The article referred to appeared in the Am. Sportsman vol IV p. 19.

When the bird rises into the air its wings whistle steadily as it mounts in a broad spiral course into the dusky heavens. The highest point reached is perhaps three or four hundred feet. It then begins to descend by a series of irregular, erratic plungings, which produce the effect of dividing the whistling "into syllables". The whistling is at this period especially shrill and loud but is nevertheless unmistakably produced by the wings. When about one third of the descent is effected the wings are apparently (!) set and the bird floats evenly and slowly downward like a stashy ball of thistle down. Then begins the,

April 8 vocal music, a succession of soft and exceedingly liquid notes which are accelerated as the author nears the earth. My original description was perhaps a little overdrawn but still the song is a beautiful one and if it had just a little more power it would scarcely be surpassed by that of any of the true singing birds. I was also again reminded of the boys water whistle & the resemblance is certainly an obvious one.

When within about thirty feet of the earth the song is abruptly cut short, and with the speed and directness of an arrows flight the performer glides down on set wings to near the starting place. Several times when he passed near us the rush of his wings was very audible. When he first alighted he stood for a moment in a stooping posture then with a short, gliding run, stopped &,

April 8 with a preliminary peent uttered his harsh peeep. Then he ran a few steps more and again gave his singular cry. After three or four runs he seemed to find a spot to his liking and would then remain nearly motionless, bleating however at intervals of about fifteen seconds, until he again took flight. Just before each cry his tail was jerked up with an automatic like motion, and as the sound followed his head was suddenly thrown back and his throat perceptibly swelled. Mr. Robbins told me that he alighted regularly in nearly the same spot each evening. Mr. R. also thinks that this nightly song ceases as soon as the eggs are laid. He has never heard it continued after the light had entirely faded from the western sky except on one occasion, a moonlight night, when it

April 8 was protracted until nearly 9 P. M. With the first faint streaks of dawn it is again resumed and continues until broad daylight.

We heard another Woodcock rise from the run just before our daughter took his first upward flight. It was probably the female. And later while the male was bleating in the open field within a few yards of us a Woodcock passed swiftly within a few feet of my friends head.

The course described by the bird while in the air would cover several acres. He seems to fairly to revel in his free upward wanderings and his descent is one joyous tumult of ecstatic melody. He looks like a small black ball in the dusky sky.

Cygnus americanus

Measurements of a Specimen shot at Nantucket Mass March 4. 1878, now in the possession of Mr. H. S. Swift of that place

Length (when in flesh)	54 inches
Nostril to tip of bill	1.62 "
Bill from Commissure	3.37 "
" " eye	4.50 "
Marsus	4.25

Bill black with a light spot (brownish orange) above and a little behind the nostril. Tarsi & webs black. White obscured by plumbeous on top and sides of head and on the neck behind